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a support which is joined to opposed sides of the frame and to spaced apart locations of the hopper to transfer weight of the hopper to the frame, the support including at least one weight sensing device which senses a weight of seed grain in the hopper transferred through the support to the frame and provides an output of the sensed weight of the seed grain in the hopper; and

a display, coupled to the output, for displaying the weight of the seed grain contained in the hopper; and wherein

the support comprises a pair of weight bearing supports which are respectively joined to the opposed sides of the frame, each weight bearing support including a first rigid attachment attached to a different one of the opposed sides of the frame supporting the frame along a longitudinal dimension of the grain drill and a second rigid attachment attached to the frame; and

the at least one weight sensing device comprises first and second load cells associated with each of the pair of weight bearing supports, the first and second load cells attaching the first and second rigid attachments together and being loaded with weight transferred from the first rigid attachment through the first and second load cells to the second rigid attachment.

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43. A method for modifying a grain drill having a frame having a plurality of wheels for supporting the grain drill during rolling over a surface of ground to be planted with seed grain and a hopper joined to the frame for containing the seed grain to be planted comprising:

raising the hopper upward from the frame to separate the hopper from being joined to the frame;

positioning a support between the hopper and the frame to join the support to opposed sides of the frame and to spaced apart positions of the hopper to support the hopper in a raised position above the frame, the positioned support transferring weight of the hopper to the frame and including at least one weight sensing device which senses a weight of the seed grain in the hopper transferred through the support to the frame and which provides an output of the sensed weight of the seed grain in the hopper; and

providing a display on the grain drill for displaying the weight of the seed grain contained in the hopper; and wherein

the support comprises a pair of weight bearing supports which are respectively joined to the opposed sides of the frame, each weight bearing support including a first rigid attachment attached to a different one of the opposed sides of the frame supporting the frame along a longitudinal dimension of the grain drill and a second rigid attachment attached to the frame; and

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the at least one weight sensing device comprises first and second load cells associated with each of the pair of weight bearing supports, the first and second load cells attaching the first and second rigid attachments together and being loaded with weight transferred from the first rigid attachment through the first and second load cells to the second rigid attachment.

REMARKS

Newly submitted claims 42 and 43 have been added to respectively broaden the coverage of allowed claims 1 and 29 so as to not specifically limit those claims to first and second vertical parts and a horizontal part. In place of that language has been recited a first rigid attachment attached to a different one of the opposed sides of the frame and a second rigid attachment. The at least one weight sensing device is recited as comprising first and second load cells attaching the first and second attachments together and being loaded with weight transferred from the first rigid attachment through the first and second load cells to the second rigid attachment. The first rigid attachments cover generically the first and second vertical parts 72 and 74 and the second rigid attachment generically covers the horizontal parts 76.

Claims 42 and 43 are patentable over United States Patent 4,411,325 (Hamilton) cited in the prosecution of the parent of this application. Hamilton, while disclosing load cells, as illustrated in Fig. 2, does not disclose the claimed subject